

Summer Honors Program
Division of Criminal Law - Correctional Law Section (Sacramento)

PLEASE NOTE: POSITIONS FOR SUMMER 2002 HAVE BEEN FILLED AND WE ARE NOT ACCEPTING RESUMES AT THIS TIME.

The California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General is currently recruiting students for its 2002 Summer Honors Program. The Criminal Division, Correctional Law Section ("CLS") provides exciting and rewarding opportunities for candidates interested in pursuing a career in public service generally or correctional litigation specifically.

Deputy Attorneys General in CLS represent state corrections and parole agencies and their employees in litigation in all levels of state and federal courts. Deputies in this section defend their clients in civil rights cases filed by prisoners and parolees. Cases range in scope from individual damages claims to large-scale class actions seeking permanent injunctive relief and present issues ranging from state tort claims to complex constitutional issues. Deputies are responsible for their own cases from the initial appearance in trial court through appeal. The majority of the section's cases are federal civil rights lawsuits.

Students participating in CLS's summer program may assist deputies with legal research and writing projects, prepare civil pleadings, including motions to dismiss and motions for summary judgment, and draft civil discovery requests or responses. Typical motions address procedural and substantive issues, including qualified immunity and the merits of a constitutional claim. Students may also have the opportunity to draft or to make substantial contributions to appellate briefs. Each student is supervised by a deputy, who will review the student's written work. Where the program is available, students who are certified by the California State Bar may have an opportunity to appear in court.

Applicants for the CLS summer program must have excellent writing, research, and analytical skills. Applicants should have completed law school classes in constitutional law, civil procedure, and research and writing. Appellate and trial advocacy may be helpful. First-year students who have completed the recommended courses may be accepted into the program.

CLS has deputies in four cities: Sacramento, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and San Diego. Students interested in applying to CLS's summer should submit a cover letter (indicating city of interest), resume, transcript (unofficial is acceptable), and two writing samples to:

Monique Morgan
California Attorney General's Criminal Law Summer Honors Program
California Department of Justice
1300 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

A limited number of positions is available in each city. Only volunteer positions are available. However, students may receive academic credit for their work. Additionally, many law schools provide public interest and other types of grants to students for these positions.